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The *International Journal of Nursing Studies* publishes material of interest to an international readership of nurses, midwives and others interested in nursing and caring sciences. It informs readers about changes and developments worldwide and so contributes to advances in health care both inside and outside hospitals. The material published may contribute to developments in practice, education and the organisation of health services. Authors are invited to submit original research papers and other scholarly papers for publication on any subject considered to be of international interest to the readership. The Editors also welcome critical reviews of the literature and concise papers reflecting topical issues.

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